

## **A Note to Clients:**

**A patient advocate designation is an important part of an estate plan. You are able to name a patient advocate to make medical decisions for you if you are unable to make them for yourself. Additionally, you can use this document to detail your wishes regarding life-sustaining treatment. Here are some choices you may want to consider prior to our first meeting:**

### **Life-sustaining treatment Options**

**Choice 1:** I do not want life-sustaining treatment (including artificial delivery of food and water) if *any* of the following medical conditions exist:

- a. I am in an irreversible coma or persistent vegetative state.
- b. I am terminally ill, and life-sustaining procedures would only serve to artificially delay my death.

**Choice 2:** I want life-sustaining treatment (including artificial delivery of food or water) *unless* I am in a coma or vegetative state that my doctor reasonably believes to be irreversible. Once my doctor has reasonably concluded that I will remain unconscious for the rest of my life, I do not want life-sustaining treatment to be provided or continued.

**Choice 3:** I want my life to be prolonged to the greatest extent possible consistent with sound medical practice without regard to my condition, the chances I have for recovery, or the cost of the procedures. I direct life-sustaining treatment to be provided to prolong my life.

### **Differences of opinion among medical personnel options**

**Choice 1:** I grant broad discretion to my patient advocate if there is a difference of opinion among my treating physicians. If there is a difference of opinion about my medical treatment among the physicians treating me, my patient advocate shall consider the opinions of all the physicians and then choose the treatment to be administered to me.

**Choice 2:** I grant no discretion to my patient advocate if there is a difference of opinion about my medical treatment among my treating physicians. If there is a difference of opinion about my medical treatment among the physicians treating me, my patient advocate shall choose the treatment that the majority of the physicians recommends.